

difficult to lose a loved one. But Lucy is strong. I know she is left with the comfort that Ned is in a better place, that his life was extraordinary in the way it touched others, and that he loved her and their family and Kentucky so dearly. Ned Breathitt was as good as they come. He was Kentucky at its best.

CRISIS IN ZIMBABWE

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I want to call the Senate's attention to the ongoing crisis in Zimbabwe. For years now, the Government of Zimbabwe, led by President Robert Mugabe, has pursued policies characterized by repression, brutality, corruption and mismanagement. The costs to the people of Zimbabwe have been terribly steep. Alongside intimidation and repression, Zimbabweans must contend with the economic consequences of this disaster. According to *The Economist* magazine, the country's GDP has shrunk by a third in the past 3 years; inflation has surged over 420 percent and 70 percent of the population lives in poverty. A country that should be an engine of growth in the region has instead become an anchor, dragging down the prospects for increased investment and prosperity. A people that should have been able to unite and focus their energies on fighting the AIDS pandemic that threatens their society is instead coping with the systematic destruction of the rule of law within their borders.

Mugabe's government would like the world to believe that it is pursuing a policy of defiance, charting an independent course, and refusing to be bullied by westerners. But this is a smokescreen, a distraction from the fact that when voters are intimidated, it is not the West that is defied, it is the will of the Zimbabwean people. When journalists are tortured and independent media outlets—most recently the popular *Daily News*—shut down, the bully is not the West, it is the Government of Zimbabwe. There is nothing heroic or revolutionary about the policies pursued by Mugabe's government. Sadly, they are taken from the familiar playbook used for decades by self-serving, dictatorial governments around the world.

Secretary of State Powell was right to call on African leaders, and especially South African President Thabo Mbeki, to take a stronger position on the crisis and to re-energize their efforts to help resolve it. Make no mistake, these leaders are not indifferent to the problem. They are coping with waves of Zimbabwean migrants fleeing persecution and the hopelessness of complete economic collapse. They are struggling against the downward force of the economic maelstrom across their borders. But quiet diplomacy is not working, and Zimbabweans continue to suffer. I urge African leaders to tell it like it is, and to express their solidarity with the Zimbabwean people,

not the disgraced and corrupt Zimbabwean Government.

AGRICULTURAL CONCENTRATION

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, increased consolidation and market concentration are, without question, prevalent concerns throughout the Nation. In particular, I am deeply disappointed to learn that the pork division of Farmland Foods has been sold to Smithfield Foods in a bankruptcy auction. Acquisition of Farmland Foods by either of the auction's bidders, Smithfield Foods and Cargill, has significant potential to lessen competition, harming both farmers and consumers. In this and many other cases, the Department of Justice has looked the other way in enforcing antitrust law, failing to maintain competitive markets.

As I travel around my home State of Wisconsin, agricultural concentration is raised by farmers and growers on a consistent basis. I am greatly concerned that industry trends toward consolidation and concentration are causing great disruption, and sometimes ruin, for our Nation's small- and medium-sized producers. It is my understanding that this acquisition would give Smithfield control of a significant portion of the pork processing industry in the U.S. market access for small and independent pork producers is already inadequate, and this merger will only exacerbate the problems of discrimination, a lack of negotiating power, and the low prices that farmers face.

While this acquisition would reduce competition among purchasers of live hogs, I am also concerned about the lack of benefit to consumers. At the other end of the food marketing chain, consumers are not seeing any decreases in the price they pay at the grocery store for these products. Having fewer competitors providing pork products to American consumers is unlikely to result in lower prices in the supermarket.

I am disappointed that the Department of Justice did not choose to enforce antitrust laws regarding the acquisition of Farmland Foods by either Cargill or Smithfield Foods. The lack of action by the Department does a disservice to the hard working men and women in the agricultural industry and only functions to increase the mounting obstacles to garner a fair price for their product.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred in Okinawa,

Japan. On October 27, 1992, Terry Helvey brutally murdered Navy Seaman Allen R. Schindler, Jr., his ship mate. Helvey beat and stomped Schindler to death because Schindler was gay. Helvey's attack was so vicious that he destroyed every organ in Schindler's body. Schindler was so badly beaten that he could hardly be identified afterward. Schindler's mother, Dorothy Hajdys-Holman, could only identify her son by the remains of a tattoo on his arm. The medical examiner compared Schindler's injuries to those sustained by victims of fatal airplane crashes.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

A TRAGEDY IN GAZA

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, this morning, we awoke to the tragic news of what happened to the convoy of United States personnel traveling in Gaza. My condolences go out to their families, loved ones and colleagues.

These brave Americans were accompanying United States diplomats going to interview young Palestinians for the opportunity to study in this great country on Fulbright scholarships—offering them a chance for a better life. These fallen men were the 48th through 51st American victims of Palestinian Arab terrorism since the signing of the Oslo accords in 1993 alone.

Several of my colleagues have made mention of the fact today that Saddam Hussein rewarded terrorists who carried out suicide bombings in Israel. We must not forget that dozens of Americans were among their victims, and that many who planned and orchestrated these horrific acts remain at large today.

The deplorable attack on the U.S. convoy sickens me, but it does not surprise me. It should have not been allowed to come to this. For far too long, the State Department has done little to bring the murderers of Americans in certain regions and incidents to justice.

For the other 48 Americans, the wheels of justice have been virtually non-existent. This is because every step of an investigation abroad must be cleared by and coordinated with the Department of State. For too many years, and for too many American families, adequate consent and opportunity to pursue has simply not been forthcoming due to "diplomatic" considerations.

This is wrong. The families who have lost loved ones should not have their grief compounded by a lack of justice from our own system. The virtual impunity afforded certain terrorists sends the wrong foreign policy signal to